

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10, 12 and 13 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 11 have been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 11.

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 2-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 2, 5, 7, 9, 12 have been amended to overcome such rejections.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohtani '789.

Claim 1 has been amended by introducing the subject matter of original claim 11. As so amended, claim 1 is new and inventive over Ohtani. Indeed, Ohtani et al. does not disclose or suggest an auxiliary housing mounted rotatably to the tool-holder and associated rigidly with said tool-holder in the axial direction, wherein the stop cage element is mounted slideably to the auxiliary housing.

By contrast, the stop cage element of Ohtani et al. (pressure foot 18) is installed on the spindle head 9 by means of the pneumatic cylinders 16 and not on the tool holder (spindle 13). No auxiliary housing is present around the spindle 13 of Ohtani and, therefore, the pressure foot 18 of Ohtani cannot be "mounted slideably to [an] auxiliary housing" "mounted rotatably to the tool-holder and associated rigidly with said tool-holder in

the axial direction", as required by amended claim 1.

In view of this, claim 1 as amended is believed to be allowable over Ohtani.

### **Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 3, 4, 7-10 and 13 stand rejected under USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohtani '789 in view of Glasson '861.

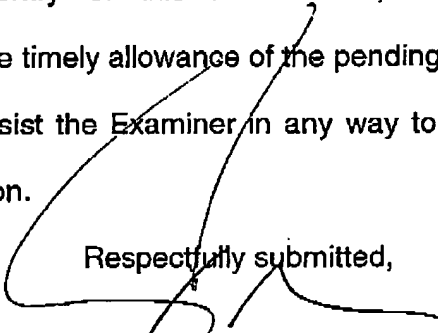
Present dependent claims 2-10, 12 and 13 all depend from patentable claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections is respectfully requested.

### **Conclusion**

All matters are addressed above and in view of the pending claims and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiners reconsideration of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Applicants counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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